



{In Archive} RE: IL Work Plan Training requirements 

Julianne Socha to: Yurdin, Bruce

09/23/2011 05:04 PM

Cc: "Heacock, Dan", Dean Maraldo, "Sofat, Sanjay"

Archive:

This message is being viewed in an archive.

Did IEPA have four new hires or six new hires?

It's my understanding that at least three new permit writers and three new field staff were hired.

thanks

"Yurdin, Bruce"

To cover the issues you raised in the order pres...

09/23/2011 04:00:03 PM

From: "Yurdin, Bruce" <Bruce.Yurdin@Illinois.gov>

To: Julianne Socha/R5/USEPA/US@EPA

Cc: Dean Maraldo/R5/USEPA/US@EPA, "Sofat, Sanjay" <Sanjay.Sofat@Illinois.gov>, "Heacock, Dan" <Dan.Heacock@Illinois.gov>

Date: 09/23/2011 04:00 PM

Subject: RE: IL Work Plan Training requirements

To cover the issues you raised in the order presented:

All of the newly hired permit writers (in March 2011) completed their training within six months of being hired, that includes the following staff and the dates of training completion, using the EPA web-based training you identified in your email (below):

Raj Ojha - Exemption 6 and Exemption 7(C)

Jamie Cowles - Exemption 6 and Exemption 7(C)

Yacine Anane -

The last staff to be hired for CAFOs was one of the field inspectors who missed the March 22, 2011 training session since her first day here was Exemption 6 and Exemption 7(C). She and the other CAFO inspectors have all now completed the on-line training we detailed in the training plan provided to Region 5 according to the Work Plan, on August 1, 2011.

To sum up then, everyone was present at the March 22 training session except one new hire who came on-board a week or so later. Since then, all new hires and old hires who work on CAFOs have completed the prescribed on-line training, either for permit writers or for other staff working on CAFOs.

I agree that we can proceed with planning a mid-November training session. That at least should get us close to complying with the intent of the training requirements under the Work Plan. I suggest you ask whoever is coming in from EPA HQ about topics and updates they may be familiar with, that they may speak about. We have several case histories that we could make presentations about. I would also like to ask the AG's staff to participate and make a presentation. Lastly, the most crucial piece of the CAFO puzzle is now and always has been "Who needs a permit". We need to make that a central point of the training.

Let me know how you would like to proceed.

bjy

-----Original Message-----

From: Socha.Julianne@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Socha.Julianne@epamail.epa.gov]

Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2011 3:02 PM

To: Yurdin, Bruce; Sofat, Sanjay; Heacock, Dan

Cc: Maraldo.Dean@epamail.epa.gov
Subject: RE: IL Work Plan Training requirements

I talked to Dean and he's fine with us working to establish dates for the training now. Topics to include in the training in addition to what's required by the work plan can be further discussed at the meeting in October.

Per the work plan, IEPA newly-hired staff should have completed the NPDES permit writers' course and NMP training within six months after their start date. EPA's information shows the last newly hired staff started in early April 2011 making the due date for training early October 2011. Additionally, EPA is required to train newly hired staff within six months after their start date. In an effort to work toward completing this element of the work plan within a reasonable time of the due date, I'd like to work on scheduling the date for training on calendars and get travel funds approved. After checking EPA calendars the week of November 14 is the most open for EPA participants (both NPDES and Enforcement & Compliance) and travel funds should be available which is always helpful.

Let me know if we can work on scheduling dates for the training and have further discussions on topics to include during our October meeting.

thanks,
julianne

Julianne Socha
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From: "Yurdin, Bruce" <Bruce.Yurdin@Illinois.gov>
To: Julianne Socha/R5/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: "Sofat, Sanjay" <Sanjay.Sofat@Illinois.gov>, "Heacock, Dan" <Dan.Heacock@Illinois.gov>
Date: 09/22/2011 01:24 PM
Subject: RE: IL Work Plan Training requirements

Last week I emailed Kevin Pierard, Dean Maraldo and Tim Henry asking for a meeting or conference call to discuss the CAFO program. One of the topics I suggested was the one you very capably described below. I believe Dean is looking into dates, times and other topics that may be of interest to R5. I suggest we table your request momentarily until we have a final agenda and date for the meeting. I think we can pick this up again at the meeting. If you need to commit to EPA HQ on a date and topics to get their involvement, you may want to make Dean aware of that.
bjy

-----Original Message-----

From: Socha.Julianne@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Socha.Julianne@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2011 9:22 AM

To: Sofat, Sanjay; Heacock, Dan; Yurdin, Bruce
Subject: IL Work Plan Training requirements

Dan, Sanjay and Bruce,

The Work Plan requires that existing and newly-hired CAFO permit writers complete the Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) Training for federal and state permit writers in addition to receiving training from EPA on the Clean Water Act and federal regulations prohibiting unpermitted discharges and requiring CAFOs that discharge to apply for a permit. The Work Plan envisioned that NMP training would be made available by EPA on-line, however, EPA's plans for this have been delayed and consequently NMP training will not be made available on-line in the near future. In order to provide this training to your staff, I'm trying to make arrangements for a representative from EPA's Water Permits Division in Washington to come to Illinois to present NMP training. The training will be based upon the "soon to be released" CAFO Permit Writers guidance. During the same training session, I would like to re-offer the EPA training that was conducted for IEPA this past March for those staff that still need this training.

If you would please let me know an estimate of the number of staff you anticipate would attend the NMP training and how many staff you anticipate would attend the general training (the general training is the same training that was offered this past March) that would be helpful. It's my understanding that all existing and some of the newly-hired staff completed the general training in March and only a few staff still need this training.

A couple other logistic questions in order for me to move forward with making arrangements for the training:

1. Would IEPA prefer the training to be offered in Springfield, at another state government location, or at the EPA regional offices in Chicago?
2. Proposed dates for the training would be sometime between November 15 and 17. The overall length of the training (1 day, 1 1/2 days, or 2 days) will depend upon how many IEPA staff will be attending the general training portion. Would staff at IEPA be available for one or two of these three days (November 15, 16 or 17)?

The last element of training required in the Work Plan is for newly-hired staff to complete the NPDES Permit Writers' Course. The training discussed above will not include this training course. The NPDES Permit Writers' Course is offered on-line and is also offered live a few times each federal fiscal year. The link to find out more information on the availability of this training course is below. Please let me know if your newly-hired staff has completed this course, date course completed or if they haven't yet completed this training class please provide me with anticipated completion dates.

http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/courses.cfm?program_id=1&outreach_id=1&o_type=1

(link for live class)

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/outreach/training/pwtraining.cfm> (link for web-based training)

Thanks,
Julianne

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